

ANN LANDERS



Where's Your Home?

Dear Ann Landers: My husband is friendly with a couple of men he works with. Their wives are not the type I would pick for friends on my own. Every Friday evening we have a set date. The six of us go out to dinner and we wind up at a little cocktail lounge that has music.

The men drink beer and talk business the whole time. The wives of these two men dance with each other. I sit because I don't like to dance with a woman. I think it looks peculiar. Furthermore, men they never saw before cut in on them on the dance floor and they end up dancing with strangers. They say it's OK because their husbands are present. What do you say—SQUARE PEG.

Dear Peg: I say the whole thing smells like a lost barrel of herring. Haven't you people got homes? Why sit in taverns? You need some new friends and I hope you find them soon and break up this glee-some threesome.

Dear Ann Landers: Our daughter is 18. She graduated from high school in June and is taking a secretarial course.

Thelma has been dating a divinity student. He is 18 and shares an apartment with two other divinity students. We all like Jerome because he seems more settled than most of the young men Thelma has dated.

Last night I understood Thelma to say she and Jerome were going to a party. I woke up at 4 a.m. with an uneasy feeling. I always feel better when I know Thelma is home, so I checked her bed. It had not been slept in. I was worried sick but decided not to awaken my husband.

At 6:25 a.m. Thelma came tiptoeing into the house, carrying her shoes. I gave her a long, hard look but said nothing. My husband did not wake up and he doesn't know about this.

My question is: Do parents have a right to tell an 18-year-old girl when to be in. She does not pay room and board. We are putting her through secretarial school. She has had no curfew since high school graduation. I am opposed to a girl coming in from a date at that hour of the night. Am I wrong?—L.L.L.

Dear L.L.L.: That "hour of the night" is not right, Lady. It's morning.

No 18-year-old girl should be allowed to stay out until dawn. Your silence was condonation.

Have a talk with Thelma. Tell her she cannot come and go as if she lived in a hotel. Midnight is plenty late for a secretarial school student (to say nothing of a divinity student). And 2 a.m. is a reasonable, respectable hour for weekends.

Confidential to Sorry I Said It: Being sorry does not help the situation. Go in person to A and B and apologize. Write to C and D and tell them you were mistaken. And next time, be sure your brain is engaged before you put your mouth in gear.

Ann Landers' new book, "Truth Is Stranger . . ." tells her own story of 13 years as adviser to millions. \$4.95 at bookstores. Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the Press-Herald, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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Count Marco

Be a Woman, Not Just a Wife

Do you know what kind of a wife most American men want? A wife who would be no problem.

A man said to me the other evening, "The girl I used to go with was my ideal, but she started changing." "How do you mean?" I asked.

"Well," he answered, "she used to do all kinds of nice things for me like leaving little gifts in my car or in the sink of the bathroom, and notes of love in unexpected places. She rubbed my feet when I came home, even had my favorite drink ready when I opened the door . . . things like that. She was all woman."

"But once she felt sure of me she started slipping." He thought sadly for a moment, then asked: "Why is it that women stop being women and become wives?"

I've checked my sources of information to see if there are specific differences between women and wives, at least in writing. I find so few it is hardly worth mentioning. But men THINK there is, and therein lies the trouble.

And why do they think so? Because married men believe there is a difference — through experience.

This is the way men see women and wives: A woman is a thoughtful person, interested in his welfare; a creature of pride he can show off; a person so comfortable he knows he can share with her the rest of his life in peace; one who can bear and raise his children without losing her original absorbing interest in him; one who will always stay as sweet as she is before marriage.

A wife, he thinks, is a shrew. She talks too much. She loses interest in him the day after the honeymoon. She rears monstrous children. She is slovenly and lazy, selfish, sickly and whining, money hungry and, worst of all, lousy in bed.

That's what the married men think. Single men who listen to married men either take the marriage vows with fear or not at all. A few happily married men would laugh at this bleak description — but not enough to balance the scales.

As I've said, what a man really wants is a wife who would be no problem. An acceptable wife then is one who sees to it that her husband has no problems. Now is that too much to ask of any wife — that you remain a woman? Few men think it is.



BEYOND DUTY'S CALL . . . Outstanding years of service on city commissions were rewarded when City Councilmen presented honor plaques to (from left) Fred Mill, Clifford J. Peterson, and former Torrance mayor, Mervin M. Schwab. Schwab was commended for his service with the Water Commission, while Peterson and Mill received praise for their work on the Civil Service Commission.

Salaries Paid to Local Officials Under Study

SACRAMENTO — The salaries of county officials, particularly county supervisors, is under review by the senate Local Government Committee, headed by Senator John G. Schmitz (R-Tustin), with an eye toward the need for new legislation during the 1969 session of the legislature. The committee this week discussed the need for some formula for determining what salaries should be approved for the county supervisors. Under discussion, also, was a preliminary presentation of a formula based on county populations, which is being prepared by the County Supervisors Association. Among those who testified was Howard Robinson, a supervisor in Ventura County, who

agreed some sort of formula was necessary in order to end the leap-frog procedure presently in force.

THE LAW requires the county grand jury to recommend a salary increase for the supervisors. This must be joined by a resolution from the supervisors agreeing that a pay boost is necessary. These resolutions then are forwarded to the legislature, which with the passage of bills, actually grants the salary increase.

Robinson also urged the committee to consider laws which would grant the counties the power to levy a business license tax; maintain the 5-cent tax on aviation gasoline with a portion to be used for the development of airports; and a third proposal to limit the amount of property owned by charitable or religious institutions which could be held as tax exempt under the law.

Daniel Higgins, district attorney of Placer County, appeared as representative of the District Attorney's Association, and urged the committee to consider legislation which would place

the salary of district attorneys throughout the state at the same level as Superior Court judges, who presently receive \$30,500 annually.

HIGGINS pointed out that all district attorneys perform about the same tasks in each county, and suggested that a district attorney's salary should not be "Tied to the county supervisors" and that he was sure the grand juries and county supervisors would like to get rid of the task of determining their own salaries and leave it up to the legislature.

Schmitz and other members of the committee pointed out that no guidelines exist to assist the legislature in determining what salaries should be paid to the county supervisors and other county officials.

Presently, county supervisor's salaries range from \$1,200 a year in Alpine County to more than \$30,000 a year in Los Angeles County. Schmitz said the two-day hearings, which ended Wednesday, were designed to hear proposals to provide "some sense of equity and uniformity for the regulation of such salaries."

Musical Festival Planned

Choirs from four local high schools will join the Harbor College Choir and orchestra in presenting the college's fifth annual Christmas Choral Festival Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the main gymnasium.

Directed by Robert H. Billings, the choral presentation is one of the outstanding musical events in the South Bay-Harbor area. Admission is free.

Each of the five choirs will perform separately before joining together for the finale of five excerpts from "The Messiah."

The 65-piece Festival Orchestra conducted by Daniel R. Remeta consists of the Harbor College orchestra augmented by instrumentalists from local high schools.

Participating choirs are the Harbor College A Capella Choir, directed by Robert H. Billings; Palos Verdes High School, directed by Carol Van Buskirk; Narbonne High School, directed by Aileen Sink; San Pedro High School, directed by Elizabeth Shuck; and Carson High School, directed by Esther Scott.

Rules Listed for A Safe Christmas

In a few moments, fire can turn your holiday into a holocaust, County Fire Chief Keith E. Klinger warned today in urging compliance with a few "common sense" fire safety rules.

"Most of us are all too familiar with the 'don'ts' of the season," Klinger said. "Don't put candles on the tree or next to pine boughs in home decorations, don't use frayed electric cords on the tree, don't decorate with mounds of fluggy, combustible material."

"For Christmas 1968, let's work to keep the family alive," Klinger said. "In the excitement of the holidays, it is easy to overlook and even to permit carelessness. A tree placed where it might be knocked over and block escape from a burning room could bring tragedy in moments."

"WRAPPING paper accidentally placed on top of a smoldering cigarette in an ash tray could quickly ignite into a large fire," he said.

The Chief suggested that the Christmas tree be placed in water as soon as it is brought home, and it should remain in water until disposed of. Dry needles burn quickly.

Artificial trees should be made of slow-burning material — and so marked. Never use electrical light strings on metal trees because of the danger of shock.

DISPOSE of gift wrapping paper immediately after the presents are opened. Don't burn them in the fireplace; burning paper often drifts from the chimney onto the roof.

If your decorations block a normal room exit, discuss with every member of your family how they should leave if a fire breaks out. In an emergency, we react to habit and a child might find himself hopelessly trapped.

"Every year, someone's holiday is turned into instant tragedy by fire," Chief Klinger concluded. "It isn't always the family next door. It could be you!"

Radio Club Will Meet

The Marina Amateur Radio Club will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday at 7:30 p.m. The session will be held at the El Nido Park community building, 182nd Street and Kingsdale Avenue.

All persons interested in radio communications are invited to attend the meeting.

Critic's Beat

'Barefoot' Is a Great Kentwood Show—Almost

Overacting on the part of John Northrup as Victor Velasco marred an otherwise enjoyable Kentwood Players' production of "Barefoot In The Park," a three-act play by Neil Simon.

existing in a mini-suite on the sixth floor of an apartment house is complicated when a dubious "match" is made between the bride's mother and an irascible old phony. Director Ed Cotter does the former Broadway hit justice.

Jack Coppick does a fine job portraying a slightly bewildered young attorney trying to cope with his scatter-brained new wife, Corrie (Marlene Bega). Marlene is thoroughly believable as an idealistic young dingle-ling who wants to spice up her mother's dull life.

Warrior Trails

By Cathy Focarazzo

Tuesday was Junior Citizens Day in Torrance.

The five Torrance High Schools — North, South, Torrance Bishop Montgomery, and West — were all represented by selected students. The idea was to give these students a chance to actively participate in an actual council meeting, working out some of the problems and viewing how the city officials operate first hand.

There were 10 categories and each one was represented by two students from West. These were airport; Kerry Cunningham and Dom Occhipinti; police; Jim Stroffo and Dorothy Cranshaw; traffic and lighting; Sue Mullins and Cathy Focarazzo; fire; Craig Kelley and Mae Nonoshita; public works; Robert Dobson and Debbie Cain; finance; Kathy Long and David Magnusson; personnel; Marilyn Harte and Rocky Westlake; recreation; Dirk Davidson and Kim Hoops; building and safety; Cheryl Nakaji and Linda Martin; and library; Teri Powers and Clara Thomas, our foreign exchange student.

The councilman from West was Senior Class President Susie Griffiths and the City Manager was Paul Johnson, associate student body president.

IN THE morning the groups went into a special workshop with their engineer or executive and were given a problem to work out in their particular department. There were tours through the

police department and shops where signs are painted. The five Torrance High Schools were wired. At 11:45 there was a luncheon held and Torrance's Mayor Albert Ison spoke to the group. After lunch was another workshop and then a joint meeting of all the departments.

At this time a spokesman from each department discussed his aspect of the problem and debated with the others. Finally, everyone voted on whether the issue should be passed or not.

AT 3:10 there was a short coffee break and at 3:30 everyone went to the council room for a joint meeting. There the junior citizens along with the actual council discussed problems in Torrance.

These problems included appropriate places for teenagers to go and the drug problem. There everyone was informed about the Torrance High Line, an organization designed to counsel narcotic users and their families. This group works every day with a competent staff of psychiatrists, psychologists, doctors, attorneys, ministers, and counselors to offer aid to these people who do call for help. The organization has been active for about two months and seems to be quite successful.

The whole day was excellent as far as informing the younger generation about their city and how it works, and for meeting other students from neighboring high schools.

RTD Bus Operators Ask Exact Fare Plan

Adoption of an Exact Fare Plan with locked fare boxes in all SCRTD buses is the only solution to the still-plagued problem of bus robberies, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen General Chairman Kenneth R. Moore has declared.

Speaking at a news conference at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club Moore called upon the district to "take whatever action is necessary to put this program into effect at the earliest possible date" so that the threat of robberies, beatings and severe injury is permanently removed from the operators.

The BRT represents 2,600 SCRTD bus drivers, operating in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange counties.

MOORE, who just returned from a trip to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh with members of the BRT General Grievance Committee, said the program is working effectively in those cities, virtually eliminating bus robberies.

"At the present time," he said, "the program is also in effect in Cleveland, San Francisco, Syracuse, Washington, D.C., Houston, Memphis, Louisville, Baltimore, Buffalo, Milwaukee, and Oakland with similar excellent results. If this is what is necessary to give our members the protection they deserve, then the District must install this program."

Moore pointed out that one year ago today Los Angeles was faced with a threatened withdrawal of bus service in large areas of the city due to the menace to the drivers posed by the bus robbers.

LAST MINUTE action by city officials and law enforcement agencies staved off this crisis and additional police protection was provided in the areas with high incidence of robberies.

"We are appreciative of the cooperation we have received from the city and county and from the law enforcement agencies," Moore said. "The number of robberies in 1967 was 376 and that has been cut about in half. As of Nov. 25 we had 165."

"That's certainly a significant reduction, but the number of robberies is still far too high

for our drivers to feel secure in the performance of their duties. "As an example, Cincinnati installed the Exact Fare Plan when the annual number of robberies increased from 2 to 11. We've had that many in a single week."

MOORE pointed out that establishment of an Exact Fare Plan would require a massive public information program by the SCRTD so that bus riders would be aware of how it would work.

"We hope the 700,000 bus riders daily will understand what the problem is and will cooperate so that bus robberies can be eliminated," he continued. "It's certainly in the best interest of the public as well as our members to have this situation alleviated."

With Moore at the news conference were members of the BRT General Grievance Committee on the SCRTD, Earl Clark, William Haag, Ben Keon and Cue White.

TOP LAUDS go to Dortha Cavanaugh as Corrie's mother, Ethel, who falls in love in spite of herself. She is the brightest spot in the production.

Northrup's portrayal of Victor Velasco was unfortunate. The lines were there, the characterization was there, the stage presence was there. The dialect was not. In his attempt to sound the part of a foreigner with gusto, he swallowed many lines that could have been house-busters.

RICH HOLMES played the part of an aggravated, embarrassed telephone repairman to a tee. The microscopic part of the deliveryman was done with zest by Jerry Crane. Crane, just off a smash performance in "The Odd Couple" at Kentwood, huffed and puffed his way into the tiny Bratter apartment then groaned out, adding a fine "stitch" to an already good production.

"Barefoot" closes Dec. 14—TIM O'DONNELL

Deputies Earn Pay For Study

A program to encourage sheriff's deputies to continue their formal education, initiated at the suggestion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, is now being implemented.

It will provide for the training of approximately 1400 officers by reimbursing them for books and tuition for classes taken on their own time.

Hahn said the program is aimed at meeting the increasing need for greater community understanding and effectiveness by frontline law enforcement officers.

EMPHASIS will be on increasing the educational background, particularly in the field of sociology, for officers at the deputy and sergeant level who daily come in contact with the public.

Approximately two-thirds of the courses available to the officer will be "people" oriented as contrasted to the more traditional police science and law enforcement courses.

"THE DEMANDS placed upon the front line law enforcement officer in today's society are great," Hahn said. "He must be prepared to deal with difficult and varied situations in a calm, efficient, and understanding manner. He must know human relations as well as how to write a traffic ticket," he added.

Courses included in the program are Cultural Anthropology, Man and Contemporary Society, Applied Psychology, Conversational Spanish, Urban Sociology, Mass Communication, and Delinquency Control.

A Letter . . . To My Son

By Tom Rische
High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce,

A few days in your life probably will remain as clear in your memory as if they had happened yesterday. They were days of unusual sadness or gladness.

On Dec. 7, 1941, I remember that I was playing ball in the front yard of my grandfather's house when my father came out and said, "The Japanese have attacked Pearl Harbor." And when we received word that the war was over on Sept. 2, 1945, I remember that I was working in the back shop of a newspaper and that we all ran into the street and screamed for a while and jumped up and down.

I particularly remember another historic day—Nov. 22, 1963—when a girl came into my journalism class and asked whether it was true that the President had been shot. Because she was gullible, I thought somebody was kidding her, but we soon discovered her rumor was true.

The events and conversations of these and a few other historic dates of my lifetime are etched in my memory as are some more personal high and low points.

I remember strange things, like the fact that I caught a rat and put him in a box on the day that my father died, or that a handle came off one of the doors at my grandmother's funeral. I can find almost the exact spot on the UCLA campus hillside where your mother agreed to marry me, and I also remember how my first dog got my father's pants all muddy when we picked him up.

Fortunately, we remember more good things than bad things. Otherwise, psychologists tell us, we'd go crazy.

Yours for good things,
YOUR DAD